

What is claimed is:

1 1. A light emitting device, comprising:
2 a light emitting element; and
3 a phosphor layer that is composed of phosphor glass to
4 generate fluorescence while being excited by light emitted from
5 the light emitting element;
6 wherein the light emitting element emits ultraviolet
7 light, and the phosphor glass generates visible fluorescence
8 while being excited by the ultraviolet light.

1 2. The light emitting device according to claim 1,
2 wherein:
3 the phosphor glass contains, as glass component, at least
4 one of Tb^{3+} (terbium), Eu^{2+} (divalent europium) and Eu^{3+} (trivalent
5 europium).

1 3. The light emitting device according to claim 1,
2 wherein:
3 the phosphor layer is composed of a plurality of layers
4 that are of different kinds of the phosphor glasses.

1 4. The light emitting device according to claim 1,
2 wherein:
3 the phosphor glass is particle-shaped, and the phosphor
4 layer is composed of a transparent material and the
5 particle-shaped phosphor glass that is dispersed in the
6 transparent material.

1 5. The light emitting device according to claim 4,
2 wherein:

3 the particle-shaped phosphor glass is composed of
4 different kinds of the particle-shaped phosphor glasses.

1 6. The light emitting device according to claim 4,
2 wherein:

3 the phosphor layer is further composed of a phosphor
4 material other than the phosphor glass, the phosphor material
5 being dispersed in the transparent material.

1 7. The light emitting device according to claim 4,
2 wherein:

3 the transparent material is low-melting glass or
4 synthetic resin.

1 8. A light emitting device, comprising:

2 a light emitting element;

3 an optical system that converges light emitted from the
4 light emitting element;

5 wherein the optical system is composed of phosphor glass.